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## PROMPT ACTION CONTROLS 1952 FLOOD THREATS IN CHINA; SINKIANG INCREASES TOTAL OF IRRIGATED LAND

High water was reported during July in all the main river systems of China, and the various organizations responsible for flood control and prevention were alerted throughout the country. Some criticism was directed against the authorities and cadres in certain areas by inspectors sent out by the National Flood Control Command Headquarters.

All rivers in the Tientsin area reached flood stage in late July. Heroic efforts by cadres, officials, and people saved the farms along the streams from serious flooding.

Work or the Kuan-t'ing flood control and irrigation reservoir on the Yung-ting Ho in Hopeh, which is the largest undertaking of its kind in the country to date, is making good progress. The 490-meter diversion tunnel, bored through solid rock has been completed.

Charges of serious waste in the administration of Hai Ho conservancy engineering have been laid against the Tientsin Harbor Works Office which has been administering the Hai Ho conservancy program.

Many main and branch irrigation canals have been dug and repaired in the Urumchi area of Sinkiang.

NEAR-FLOOD CONDITIONS REFORTED TERCUGHOUT NATION -- Kaifeng, Honan Jih-pao, 21 Jul 52

Penping, 19 July (Hsin-hua) -- All the main river systems of China are reported to be in various stages of high water and flood conditions. All agencies concerned with flood control have been alerted. Hydrographic report stations have all been activated, dike patrols are on duty and dike repair crews are atwork or standing by. In Kwangtung, Kwangsi, and Kiangsi, considerable land has been inundated and a large number of small-scale water conservancy structures have been swept away.

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On the big Ching Chiang dike in Hupeh, 130 kilometers long, which was built in connection with the Ching Chiang Flood Diversion Project, 130 alarm stations have been set up. Along the Yangtze River and other rivers in Anhwei, 232,000 peasants have been mobilized by flood-prevention authorities and 991,000 pieces of timber of all sizes, as well as large supplies of sand bags, assembled. Extensive work has been done in raising embankments, digging drainage ditches, etc. Many hundreds of small dike washouts and over 40 dike leaks have been repaired.

The National Flood Control Command Headquarters of the Central People's Government sent out inspectors to work with the local agencies in checking on the situation throughout the country. The inspectors reported certain weaknesses in the program, such as: (1) poor engineering practices, (2) weakness in the reporting systems, and (3) cadres and people not alert to dangers in the areas of light rainfall. Asserting that the day of flood danger has arrived throughout the country, the headquarters called for the people everywhere to activate emergency measures, to assemble materials and supplies at all danger points, and to organize for instant and adequate action to prevent a danger spot from becoming a calamity area.

FLOOD THREATS IN TIENTSIN AREA OVERCOME -- Pao-ting, Hopeh Jih-pao, 5 Aug 52

During late July, all rivers in the Tientsin area reached flood stage and passed the danger point in a number of places. On 23 July, the lower Yung-ting Ho waters broke the first dike. Immediately, 700 workers were mobilized and, after 48 hours of continuous labor, the breach was repaired. The Yin Ho overflowed its banks in 260 places. Steady night and day shifts of 1,400 workers succeeded in stopping the overflows after 72 hours. On the right bank of the Ta-ch'ing Ho, 80 meters of a brick dike gave way and leaks appeared in many overflows and leaks occurred in over 30 other places. Over 300 workers working big flood threat of the season on the Yung-ting Ho and its tributaries has been overcome. Heien authorities are taking precautions to prevent possible disaster in later high-water conditions.

FLOODS CONTROLLED IN HSIANG-HO HSIEN -- Pao-ting, Hopeh Jih-pao, 8 Aug 52

Alert authorities and patrio.ic cadres and people, by strenuous and self-denying efforts, have managed to keep the dikes of the Chiao-pai, Chien-kan, Pei-yun, and Chiing-wan rivers in Hsiang-ho Hsien, Hopen, from giving way when the water in these streams rose from 2 to 6 feet a day over a period of several days.

WORK ON KUAN-T'INC RESERVOIR PROCEEDS FAVORABLY -- Pao-ting, Hopeh Jih-pao, 7 Aug 52

Work on the Kuan-t'ing flood control and irrigation reservoir on the Yungting Ho\_\_\_\_\_\_ begun in the spring of 1952, has proceeded rapidly. The 490-meter diversion tunnel, 9.4 meters in height and width, has been bored and the concrete lining is being put in. With the completion of the tunnel the work on the main dam of the reservoir can be started.

Over 100,000 cubic meters of rock was removed in boring the tunnel. The workmen revealed much ingenuity in developing more efficient and economical methods of drilling and using explosives. Work has also begun on the construction of the overflow spillway.

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The completion of the Ching Chiang Flood Diversion Project in Hupeh permitted the transfer in early July of 388 technicians to the Kuan-t'ing project. The arrival of these experiencei and enthusiastic technicians has stimulated the progress of this important project. When completed it will be the largest of the various water conservancy reservoirs so far undertaken in New China.

SERIOUS WASTE CHARGED IN HAI HO CONSERVANCY PROGRAM -- Tientsin Jih-pao,

During the last 3 years, unwise purchasing, poor working plans, and overstocking by the Tientsin Harbor Works Office which has been concurrently in control of conservancy engineering on the Hai Ho has resulted in the loss of more than one billion yuan of the national wealth.

In the building of village dikes, some that were already high enough have been raised, while others that needed raising have been neglected, with resulting flooding. Time and materials have been wasted in cutting long timbers and large metal materials into small pieces to use where small materials would have suited better to begin with. There has been lack of coordination between purchasing agencies and consumers.

In one case it was decided to use Oregon fir for boat masts, but later it was decided to us native red pine. No notice of the change was given to the purchasing agency which went ahead and bought the foreign timber at a cost of 400 million yuan. This timber was not made use of for nearly a year. Large stocks of supplies on hand at the time of the liberation were ignored and new stocks purchased. Large stocks of materials seldom or never used by the conservancy program have been accumulated and kept on hand for a number of years.

The following reasons are assigned for all this inefficiency: (1) bureaucratic attitude of the cadres, (2) lack of willingness to assume responsibility by technicians and lack of supervision on the job, (3) lack of political study by many cadres with resulting failure to recognize their responsibility to country and people, (4) lack of long-range planning, and (5) lack of scientific methods. The cure recommended is a rigorous application of the Three Antis program.

IRRIGATION ADVANCED IN SINKIANG -- Sian, Chun-chung Jih-pao, 21 Jul 52

In the Urumchi area of Sinkiang the people have followed up the first steps in land reform by irrigation activities. To dig 90 kilometers of large main irrigation canals, 15 small main canals, and 327 branch canals as well as digging three smaller new canals, 10,000 people were mobilized. In Fou-k'ang Hsien 5 miles of canal 5 feet wide by 8 feet deep were dug in 5 days. Several tens of springs were opened up for free flowing. By these various activities irrigation for 3,000 mou 1 mou equals 1/6 acre/ more of land has been provided.

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